

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BERLIN 07632 040653Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
USIA-06 ACDA-07 TRSE-00 IO-13 /079 W
-----032131 040700Z /14

R 040643Z OCT 77
FM AMEMBASSY BERLIN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5791
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
CINCUSAREUR HEIDELBERG GER
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY PARIS
USAFE RAMSTEIN GER
USELMLO SHAPE BELGIUM
USMISSION USBERLIN
USMISSION USNATO
USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PGOV, MILI, GE
SUBJECT: GDR NATIONAL DAY CELEBRATIONS: VOLKSARMEE
PARADE.

REF: A) BERLIN 7490, B) STATE 233891, C) USBERLIN 2520

1. VOLKSARMEE UNITS HAVE MOVED INTO EAST BERLIN OVER THE
WEEKEND IN PREPARATION FOR GDR NATIONAL DAY PARADE
DESCRIBED REFTELS. DURING NIGHT OF 1-2 OCTOBER SUBSTANTIAL
QUANTITIES OF MILITARY EQUIPMENT WERE DEPLOYED THROUGH
CENTER OF THE CITY ALONG ROUTES EASILY OBSERVABLE FROM
EMBASSY STAFF APARTMENTS. DEPLOYMENTS, WHICH TOOK PLACE
BETWEEN 10:00 PM AND 2:00 AM, INCLUDED TANKS, AT LEAST TWO
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PAGE 02 BERLIN 07632 040653Z

TYPES OF SURFACE-TO-AIR MISSILES, THREE TYPES OF
SURFACE-TO-SURFACE MISSILES, BARRAGE ROCKET LAUNCHERS,
TOWED ARTILLERY AND HOWITZERS, SELF-PROPELLED RADAR-
GUIDED ANTI-AIRCRAFT GUNS, ARMORED PERSONNEL CARRIERS,
TROOP TRUCKS AND STAFF CARS. IN ALL APPROXIMATELY 300-
350 PIECES OF EQUIPMENT WERE OBSERVED. ALL ITEMS WERE
PAINTED UNIFORM GREEN WITHOUT UNIT OR INVENTORY MARKINGS.

AT LEAST PART OF THIS EQUIPMENT IS CURRENTLY PARKED ALONG THE BANKS OF THE SPREE IN CENTER OF THE CITY. EMBOFF ALSO OBSERVED VOLKSARMEE BANDS PRACTICING AT MARX-ENGELS PLATZ DURING EVENING OF OCTOBER 1.

2. BASED ON THESE OBSERVATIONS WE WOULD CONCUR WITH USBERLIN'S PREDICTION (USBERLIN 2520) THAT THIS YEAR'S GDR NATIONAL DAY WILL BE MARKED BY A MUCH LARGER DISPLAY OF MILITARY FORCE THAN HAS BEEN THE CASE IN EARLIER YEARS. EARLIER THIS YEAR, THE GDR DISPENSED WITH A MILITARY PARADE ON MAY DAY FOR THE FIRST TIME AND ANNOUNCED THAT HENCEFORTH THE VOLKSARMEE DISPLAY WOULD TAKE PLACE ON OCTOBER 7.

3. COMMENT: IN OUR VIEW, THE SIZE OF THE IMPENDING MILITARY PARADE FULLY JUSTIFIES THE COORDINATED PROTEST INDICATED IN STATE 233891. BOLEN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TROOP DEPLOYMENT, MILITARY EQUIPMENT, COMMEMORATIVE CELEBRATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 04-Oct-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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ISecure: 1
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Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
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